

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Manitowoc Board of Education
January 25, 2022

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President Dave Nickels at 12:00 p.m. Members present were: Mr. Collin Braunel, Ms. Lisa Johnston, Mr. Dave Nickels, Ms. Meredith Sauer, Ms. Stacey Soeldner, Ms. Kathy Willis, and Mr. Kerry Trask. Also present were Superintendent Mark Holzman, Board Secretary Laurie Braun, and Directors.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members logged into BoardBook and the virtual meeting connection was confirmed.

A motion was made by Kathy Willis, seconded by Stacey Soeldner, and unanimously carried (7-0), to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2022, Board Meeting.

There were no committee reports to share at the January 25, 2022 Board Meeting.

Superintendent Holzman introduced McKinley Academy student Holly Galbraith who has met the necessary requirements to graduate mid-year. At this time, Mr. Holzman recommended the Board accept and confirm Holly Galbraith's graduation. On motion from Collin Braunel, and seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the graduation recommendation of Holly Galbraith. Superintendent Mark Holzman, Board President Dave Nickels, McKinley Academy Principal Christopher Dirkes, and McKinley Academy Board President Lisa Bruere presented Holly with her diploma. Congratulations to Miss Galbraith and her future endeavors.

Director of Human Resources, Joyce Greenwood-Aerts presented the Personnel Report and the Addendum to the Personnel Report. The Personnel Report consisted of two (2) resignations, one (1) retirement, hiring one (1) professional staff, five (5) support staff positions, extra-curricular stipends, and one (1) level movement. Level movements will be effective at the start of the 2022-2023 school year. The Board discussed having a memorandum of understanding for the dual license when hiring our new middle school staff. Joyce Greenwood-Aerts stated the committee is still having conversations surrounding this topic. On motion by Meredith Sauer, and seconded by Lisa Johnston, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the Personnel Report and Addendum as presented.

School Forest Coordinator Kelly Vorrone presented a School Forest Update for the 2020-2021 School Year. Ms. Vorrone acknowledged this was a very different school year, starting the year in-person, shifting to virtual learning, and finishing the year in a blended model. The year was still filled with sharing great information through nature videos, virtual classroom visits and virtual School Forest field trips. Students returned to the School Forest in person on May 3, 2021, and continued every school day through the end of the school year. Ms. Vorrone also shared the Save Our Great Lakes Grant in partnership with the Woodland Dunes Nature Center to remove invasive species on 90 acres of land within the School Forest. She also shared grant work received from Cellcom's

Green Gifts program and two other grants received from the Natural Resources Foundation that will support outdoor learning space at Jefferson and Monroe Elementary Schools. The Board had time to ask questions and also thanked Ms. Vorrone for all of the great work and her enthusiasm that is shared with her students at the School Forest.

Director of Pupil Services Joanne Metzen presented the Open Enrollment for Pupils with Disabilities. Ms. Metzen provided a summary of the document presented, how open enrollment works within our district and answered any questions from the Board. On motion from Lisa Johnston, seconded by Kathy Willis, the Board unanimously approved (7-0) the Open Enrollment for Pupils with Disabilities plan for 2022-2023.

The Board next discussed the District's Health Protocols. Superintendent Holzman shared information and data from our community including last week's Burden Rate was 2199, and has currently risen to 2903. For comparison, last year at this time our Burden Rate was in the 400's. Daily attendance/absences data for both students and staff were also shared noting a daily average of 92 staff absences this past week. Mr. Holzman stressed that we currently have all hands on deck with staff to keep our schools open to in-person learning and we continue to be hopeful to start seeing a decline in student and staff absences and improvement to our community's health status.

Director of Business Services Angela Erdmann presented the 2020-2021 Audit Report. Ms. Erdmann provided a summary of the Hawkins Ash CPAS, LLP report including an overview of journal entries, timeliness of requests, original and final budgeted amount, and any advisory comments. Ms. Erdmann reported MPSD utilized 51% of its expenditures towards instruction. Also made it aware to the Board in her summary that the district will not be receiving any additional aid from the state for the 2022-2023 budget. The Board was provided the opportunity for questions and comments surrounding the 2020-2021 Audit Report.

Future Meeting Dates include Finance & Budget Committee tentatively scheduled to meet February 2, 2022, the Ad-Hoc Student Behavior Advisory Committee will meet January 27, 2022, and the next Board meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2022.

A motion was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Kerry Trask, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote to move into closed session at 12:52 p.m. for the purpose of considering a one-year leave of absence for the 2022-2023 School Year from a Teacher/Student Support Leader and to discuss the Superintendent Contract. The Board convened in closed session at 12:52 p.m.

At the request of the acting Board President, Board member Lisa Johnston asked Board Secretary Laurie Braun to re-join the meeting. On motion from Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Collin Braun, the meeting reconvened into open session at 2:24 p.m. A motion was made by Stacey Soeldner, seconded by Collin Braun, and unanimously approved (6-0), to accept the request of the Teacher/Student Support Leader for the one-year leave of absence. No action was taken on the Superintendent's contract at this time.

A motion to adjourn was made by Collin Braunel, seconded by Stacey Soeldner, and unanimously carried (6-0), the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Braun, Secretary

Lisa Johnston Vice president

Dave Nickels, Board President and/or
Lisa Johnston, Vice-President/Clerk